



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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INTERPRETIVE OPINION

Pursuant to §103-50, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), all buildings and facilities constructed by, or on behalf of the State or any county, shall conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and amendments. In accordance to HRS §103-50 and Chapter 11-217, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the Disability and Communication Access Board has authority to issue interpretive opinions to HRS §103-50 design standards.

Docket: **DCAB 2001-08:** Interpretive Opinion on ADAAG 4.6 Parking. Can an access aisle be used by both accessible parking stall users entering and exiting their vehicle, and maintenance vehicles that infrequently drive through?

Summary: Van accessible stall access aisles, at 8-feet-wide minimum, are *intended* for use by persons getting in and out of a vehicle not for use by a vehicle that could block deployment of a lift. Although technically there is no discrepancy since ADAAG does not address the use of access aisles by vehicles for *driving through*, it was not designed for use by vehicles, it is not a road, and was not supposed to be a *vehicular way*. There are unforeseen problems, the potential for cars parking in the space, and increased maintenance of accessible features. *Policy-wise*, the shared use of the access aisle is possible with priority given to accessible stall users. Removable signs or bollards could prevent parking in the aisle and allow maintenance vehicular usage. The Department of Parks and Recreation wants to avoid litigation when unexpected bollards damage cars. The ADAAG defines “access aisles” as accessible *pedestrian* spaces between elements, such as parking spaces.

Ruling: For buildings or facilities subject to HRS § 103-50,

ADAAG 4.6 Parking

Because the intended use of an access aisle is for pedestrians, vehicles shall not be allowed to use access aisles for parking or passing through.

[Rul: 07/01] (Auth and Imp: HRS §103-50)

If you have any questions or comments regarding this ruling, please call us at 586-8121.

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